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FOREIGN AND INSULAR.

Reports from Rio de Janeiro—Plague, smallpox, and yellow fever.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Stewart reports, December 15 and 22, 1903, as follows:

During the week ended December 12 I inspected and issued bills of health to 3 vessels leaving here for the United States, viz: The steamship *Thetis* for New York, steamship *Rosebank* for Port Arthur, Tex., and steamship *Albuera* for New York, via Bahia, Brazil.

The *Thetis* was disinfected last week at Ilha Grande Quarantine Station, and as the *Albuera* was sailing direct from here to other Brazilian ports she was disinfected here in the bay by the Brazilian sanitary authorities by means of sulphur gas generated in a small furnace on a disinfecting barge alongside.

None of these vessels carried any passengers except the *Thetis*, which is one of the regular Lamport and Holt boats. These ships carry both first and third class passengers, but, as stated in a former communication, emigration is very light at this time of the year.

The weather has been somewhat cooler during the past week, and there has been some rain, which was very much needed.

Mortality report—Plague and smallpox cases under treatment.

Total deaths from all causes for the week ended December 12, 1903, 361; yellow fever, 0; variola, 26; plague, 21; pulmonary tuberculosis, 62; malarial fevers, 16, and leprosy, 1. Total number of plague cases under treatment in the Paulo Candido Hospital, 74; total number of cases of variola under treatment in Sao Sebastiao Hospital, 82.

Report for week ended December 19, 1903.

During the week ended December 19, 1903, only 1 vessel left this port for the United States, namely, the barkentine *White Wings*, from here for Baltimore, with a cargo of coffee. This vessel and crew were inspected by me, and a bill of health was issued.

The weather has been cooler this week than during the week preceding, and there have been several rather heavy rains, lasting for some hours, which have flushed out the surface sewerage and helped to flush out the underground sewerage also.

Comparative statistics—Sanitary conditions.

[Circular—Translated.]

In the month of November the total number of deaths was a trifle less than in October, 1,441 as compared with 1,499. The daily mortality was also, of course, a trifle less, 48.03 against 48.36.